

REMARKS

Initially, in the Office Action dated April 9, 2004, the Examiner rejects claims 1, 4, 6-13, 15-25 and 27-37 under 35 U.S.C. §112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which Applicant regards as the invention. Claims 1, 4, 7, 13, 15-17, 20, 25, 27-29 and 32 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(e) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 5,848,373 (DeLorme et al.). Claims 6, 8-10, 11, 12, 21-24, 30, 31 and 37 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over DeLorme et al. and further in view of what would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made (OOOS). Claims 1, 4, 6-13, 15-25 and 27-37 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over WO 97/07467 (Phelan) in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,148,261 (Obradovich et al.).

By the present response, Applicant has amended claims 1, 6, 13 and 25 to further clarify the invention. Claims 1, 4, 6-13, 15-25 and 27-37 remain pending in the present application.

35 U.S.C. §112 Rejections

Claims 1, 4, 6-13, 15-25 and 27-37 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. §112, second paragraph. Applicant has amended these claims to further clarify the invention and respectfully request that these rejections be withdrawn.

35 U.S.C. §102 Rejections

Claims 1, 4, 7, 13, 15-17, 20, 25, 27-29 and 32 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(e) as being anticipated by DeLorme et al. Applicant has discussed the deficiencies of DeLorme et al. in Applicant's previously-filed responses and resubmit all remarks submitted in those responses. Applicant provides the following additional remarks.

Regarding claims 1, 13 and 25, Applicant submits that DeLorme et al. does not disclose or suggest the limitations in the combination of each of these claims of, inter alia, location information providing information concerning geographical points and access right information, access right information of the location information concerning a geographical point determining whether a user has access to the location information, or where each mobile terminal is connected to a second network and each second network is connected to another network with the collaborative location server, each mobile terminal and the collaborative location server communicating via the second network and the other network.

DeLorme et al. merely discloses a computer aided map location system that provides correlation and coordination of spatially related data between a computer and a set of printed maps. DeLorme et al. does not disclose or suggest anything related to access right information of location information concerning a geographical point determining whether a user has access to the location information, as recited in the claims of the present application. The CAMLS disclosed in DeLorme et al. typically resides on a computing device such as a PDA and simply provides

correlation and coordination of spatially-related data between digital electronic media such as the PDA and graphic and text media such as printed maps. DeLorme et al. does not disclose or suggest any criteria or restrictive determination for providing a user access to the CAMLS. In contrast, according to the limitations in the claims of the present application, the location information contains access right information that determines whether a user has access to the location information.

Moreover, DeLorme et al. does not disclose or suggest each mobile terminal being operatively connected to a second network that is operatively connected to another network where the collaborative location server resides, where each mobile terminal and the collaborative location server communicate via the second network and the other network. As the Examiner has stated, DeLorme et al. merely discloses a portable computing device with an optionally coupled GPS location unit, which acts to output various types of mapping materials which correlate information using location coordinates for indication or incorporation of the maps. DeLorme et al. does not disclose or suggest the portable computing devices connected to an associated network where this associated network is then connected to another network where a collaborative location server resides, as recited in the claims of the present application. DeLorme et al. merely discloses a single portable computing device that contains the computer aided map location (CAMLS) that provides the function disclosed in DeLorme et al. The ability of each portable computing device in DeLorme et al. to access a GPS system still fails to disclose or suggest two networks, as recited in the claims of the present application. In addition,

DeLorme et al. discloses map information being stored in and retrieved from the portable computing device. In contrast, the limitations in the claims of the present application relate to a collaborative location server operatively connected to a network that stores and retrieves location information. A plurality of users of mobile terminals may input location information to the collaborative location server and retrieve location information from the collaborative location server. In contrast, DeLorme et al. does not disclose a collaborative location server that contains the location information, but in contrast discloses the portable computing device as containing the location information. DeLorme et al. does not disclose or suggest anything related to a server or a server connected to a network, as recited in the claims of the present application.

Regarding claims 4, 7, 15-17, 20, 27-29 and 32, Applicant submits that these claims are dependent on one of independent claims 1, 13 and 25 and, therefore, are patentable at least for the same reasons noted regarding these independent claims. For example, Applicant submits that DeLorme et al. does not disclose or suggest the positioning information included in each of the storage and retrieval requests transmitted by the mobile terminal being supplied by a positioning system, or each location information being a virtual electronic document providing information concerning a corresponding geographical point.

Accordingly, Applicant submits that DeLorme et al. does not disclose or suggest the limitations in the combination each of claims 1, 4, 7, 13, 15-17, 20, 25,

27-29 and 32 of the present application. Applicant respectfully requests that these rejections be withdrawn and that these claims be allowed.

35 U.S.C. §103 Rejections

Claims 6, 8-10, 11, 12, 18, 19, 21-24, 30, 31 and 37 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over DeLorme et al. in view of OOOS.

Applicant respectfully traverses these rejections.

Applicant submits that these claims are dependent on one of independent claims 1, 13 and 25 and, therefore, are patentable at least for the same reasons noted regarding these independent claims. Applicant submit that the Examiner's alleged OOOS does not overcome the substantial defects noted previously regarding DeLorme et al. For example, Applicant submits that none of the cited references or assertions disclose or suggest each virtual electronic document being a web page where each web page is linked to other web pages forming information about other location information, or the web page being linked to other web pages stored on the collaborative location server or on a web server on a network accessible to the collaborative location server.

The Examiner asserts that HTML and HTTP is notoriously well-known. However, Applicant asserts that applying these technologies to the other limitations in the claims of the present application taken in combination, make these limitations patentable over the cited art. Applicant submits that it is well understood that known items can be combined in a novel combination with other known items or not so known items to render a patentable invention.

Accordingly, Applicant submits that none of the cited references disclose or suggest the limitations in the combination of each of claims 6, 8-10, 11, 12, 18, 19, 21-24, 30, 31 and 37 of the present application. Applicant respectfully requests that these rejections be withdrawn and that these claims be allowed.

Claims 1, 4, 6-13, 15-25 and 27-37 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Phelan in view of Obradovich et al. in view of OOOS. The deficiencies of Phelan have been discussed in Applicant's previously-filed responses and Applicant reasserts all remarks submitted in these responses. Applicant provides the following additional remarks.

Obradovich et al. discloses a location tagged data provision and display system where a personal communication device (PCD) with electromagnetic communication capability has a GPS receiver and a display. The PCD requests maps and location tagged data from data providers and others for display on the PCD. The data providers respond to requests by using searching and sorting schemes to interrogate databases and then automatically transmitting data responsive to the request to the requesting PCD.

Applicant submits that none of the cited references, taken alone or in any proper combination, disclose, suggest or render obvious the limitations in the combination of each of these claims of, inter alia, location information providing information concerning geographical points and access right information, access right information of the location information concerning a geographical point determining whether a user has access to the location information, or where each

mobile terminal is connected to a second network and each second network is connected to another network with the collaborative location server, each mobile terminal and the collaborative location server communicating via the second network and the other network. Phelan merely discloses a client computer that gets map information from one server and overlay information relating to a place of interest from another server. Phelan et al. does not disclose or suggest anything related to access right information of location information concerning a geographical point determining whether a user has access to the location information, as recited in the claims of the present application. Phelan does not disclose or suggest any criteria or restrictive determination for providing a user access to the map or overlay information. In contrast, according to the limitations in the claims of the present application, the location information contains access right information that determines whether a user has access to the location information.

Moreover, Phelan does not disclose or suggest each mobile terminal being operatively connected to a second network that is operatively connected to another network where the collaborative location server resides, where each mobile terminal and the collaborative location server communicate via the second network and the other network. Phelan merely discloses the client computer having one connection to a map server and another connection to an overlay server directly. Phelan does not disclose or suggest the client computer connected to an associated network where this associated network is then connected to another network where a collaborative location server resides, as recited in the claims of the present

application. In addition, Phelan discloses map information being stored in and retrieved from the servers. In contrast, the limitations in the claims of the present application relate a plurality of users of mobile terminals may input location information to the collaborative location server and retrieve location information from the collaborative location server. Moreover Phelan et al. does not disclose or suggest location information being stored in storage by users of mobile terminals in a vicinity of a geographical point for use by other users of mobile terminals when positioned in the vicinity of the geographical point. Phelan et al. discloses merely each client getting the information from a server. Further, Obradovich et al. does not disclose or suggest these limitations in the claims of the present application and does not overcome the deficiencies of Phelan.

Accordingly, Applicant submits that none of the cited references, taken alone or in any proper combination, disclose, suggest or render obvious the limitations in the combination of each of claims 1, 4, 6-13, 15-25 and 27-37 of the present application. Applicant respectfully requests that these rejections be withdrawn and that these claims be allowed.

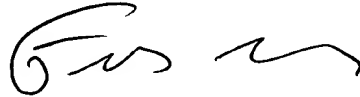
In view of the foregoing amendments and remarks, Applicant submits that claims 1, 4, 6-13, 15-25 and 27-37 are now in condition for allowance. Accordingly, early allowance of such claims is respectfully requested.

U.S. Application No. 09/329,321

To the extent necessary, Applicant petitions for an extension of time under 37 CFR 1.136. Please charge any shortage in fees due in connection with the filing of this paper, including extension of time fees, or credit any overpayment of fees, to the deposit account of Antonelli, Terry, Stout & Kraus, LLP, Deposit Account No. 01-2135 (referencing attorney docket no. 0171.36935X00).

Respectfully submitted,

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